

P. G. #727-10

Circa 1803

The Mitchell house, "Cherry Hill"
4706 Mann Street, Deanwood, Md.
Priv/Occ/Res/Good

The Mitchell house is a two-and-one-half story brick gable-roofed house with a five-bay main (west) facade. The entrance is in the central bay of this west facade, across which runs a one-story porch supported by brick piers and surmounted by a modern railing. The windows are 6/6 double-hung sash, under flat relieving arches. A flush gable chimney rises at the ridge of each of the north and south gable ends. On the east and west slopes of the roof are three modern dormers, and there is a one-story brick addition which runs the length of the east (rear) facade. The brickwork of the original house is laid in American bond, and the entire house has been painted white.

This house was built in 1803 by Archibald Van Horn on a tract of land, "Fife Enlarged", inherited by his wife, Alethea from her grandfather Joshua Beall who had patented the tract in 1764. Archibald Van Horn served as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates (1801-05), and as a member of the U.S. Congress (1807-11); at the time of his death (1817) he was a member of the State Senate. The house and property passed to his son-in-law, Walter T. G. Beall, and in 1842 to James Fowler, whose family remained there until 1893. After the turn of the century this area at the edge of the District of Columbia began to be developed into black communities, and in 1940 the Fowler house and large lot were purchased by Benjamin and Clara Mitchell from Tuskegee University, leaders in the Muslim faith. Since that time it has been visited by such prominent black individuals as Portia Washington Pittman, Mohammed Ali, Elijah Mohammed, Malcolm X, and Anwar Sadat. Because of this, and because of its architectural prominence in a predominantly black community today, it is significant in the Black history of Prince George's County.

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. P.G.#72A-10

Magi No. 1701545304

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic The Archibald Van Horn House

and/or common Cherry Hill/Mitchell House

2. Location

street & number 4706 Mann Street

☐ not for publication

city, town Deanwood

☐ vicinity of

congressional district 5

state Maryland

county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Benjamin and Clara Mitchell

street & number 4706 Mann Street

telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro

state and zip code Md.

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

P. G. County Courthouse

liber 577

street & number Main Street

folio 365

city, town Upper Marlboro

state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title P. G. County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974

☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale

state Md., 20737

7. Description

Survey No. P.G.72X-10

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Archibald Van Horn house is a two-and-one-half-story brick gable-roofed house with a five-bay main (west) facade. The entrance is in the central bay of this west facade, through a door with a single-light transom. Across the west facade runs a one-story porch supported by brick piers and surmounted by a modern railing. The windows are 6/6 double-hung sash, under flat relieving arches.

A flush gable chimney rises at the ridge of each of the north and south gable ends. Built onto the south gable end is a one-story one-room hip-roofed brick addition. Just east of the chimney on the north gable end is an exterior entrance to the unfinished basement; a massive timber serves as a lintel for this low entryway.

On the east and west slopes of the roof are three modern dormers, and there is a one-story brick addition which runs the entire length of the east (rear) facade.

In plan, the house consists of Central passage (with stair case), and a parlor on each side running the full depth of the original house. The basement is under the north parlor and central passage only. There is a supporting arch under the north gable chimney, but a large part of the other brick work in the basement has been replaced.

All of the exterior brick work of the original house is laid in American bond (6 stretcher courses to one header course), and all has been painted white since the purchase by the present owners (1940).

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #72A-10

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Black History

Specific dates 1803 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Archibald Van Horn house is significant not only as a site important to the Black history of the County, but is historically and architecturally important to the overall history of Prince George's County as well. It stands on a tract known as "Fife Enlarged", patented in 1764 to Captain Joshua Beall. When the District of Columbia was laid out in 1790, the boundary line between the District and Prince George's County went through Fife Enlarged, and most of the tract is now within the limits of Washington, D. C.

In 1796, Joshua Beall died, devising his tract "Fife Enlarged" to his wife Elizabeth, and after her death to his grand-daughter (A)lethea Elizabeth Beall and her sister Eleanor. It was Alethea E. Beall who would receive the portion of "Fife Enlarged" which is the subject property. In the following year, 1797, Alethea E. Beall married Archibald Van Horn, son of Gabriel Van Horn, well-known tavern keeper at the Vansville crossroads. Archibald Van Horn was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates from 1801 to 1805, and served as Speaker during the last year. Circa 1803/04, his wife's grandmother, Elizabeth Beall, died leaving part of Fife Enlarged (as stipulated in Joshua Beall's will) to Alethea Van Horn. By 1804, Archibald Van Horn had erected a two-story brick home on the part of the 40 acre parcel immediately outside of the D. C. boundary which his wife inherited, and this became the home of the Van Horn family.

Archibald Van Horn was elected to the Tenth and Eleventh Congress of the United States (1807-1811). He returned to the Maryland House of Delegates 1814-1816, and was then elected to the State Senate in 1816. He served until his death in 1817.

Van Horn's will left everything to his wife, Alethea, and when she died two years later, her will stipulated that all her property should be sold and the proceeds should be used to

8 - SIGNIFICANCE (Cont'd)

buy a house on Capitol Hill for her five unmarried children. Her son-in-law, Walter T. G. Beall, husband of daughter Amelia, purchased the property in Prince George's County, but it is not certain that he ever lived there.

Archibald Van Horn had an extensive law library in his home on "Fife Enlarged"; his widow specified in her will that it should go to their young son William.

The house and 40-acre farm eventually passed from the heirs of Walter T. G. Beall (d.1826) to James H. Fowler in 1842, and remained his home until his death thirty years later. It was sold out of the Fowler family in 1893.

The significance of this early 19th century house in the Black history of Prince George's County began in the early twentieth century when the area including Fairmount Heights began to develop into suburbs for Black residents. In 1940, the house and large lot were purchased by Benjamin and Clara Mitchell from Tuskegee University, leaders in the Muslim faith. Since that time, it has been visited by such prominent Black individuals as Portia Washington Pittman (cf. P.G. #72A-18), Mohammed Ali, Elijah Mohammed, Malcolm X, and Anwar Sadat.

The Van Horn house would be significant in any case because of its architecture and the prominence of its builder. But, because it has been the frequent visiting place in the last 40 years of many prominent Blacks, and because it is outstanding architecturally in a predominantly Black community today, it can be considered significant in the Black history of Prince George's County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #72X-10

P.G. Co. Deeds: 577:365; 230-279; 39:29; JWB #29:701; JWB #27:47;
JWB #26:451; JWB #4:255, JBB #2:452
P.G.Co. Wills: WAJ #1:487; TT#1:203, 242; T #1:376; P.G. Debt Books; Pat.
Cert #816, #817 P.G. Co. Tax Assessments 1800-1871; Federal Tax 1798;
P.G. Rent Rolls #3:114 1.) Biographical Dictionary of American Congress

10. Geographical Data

Interview with Benjamin and Clara Mitchell

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl

organization History Division, M-NCPPC

date June 1983

street & number 4811 Riverdale Road

telephone 779-2011

city or town Riverdale,

state Maryland 20737

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1701545204

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Cherry Hill or Fowler House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Mann Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Fairmont Heights				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PUBLIC ACQUISITION: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____		
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				
Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Upper Marlboro			Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
None				
DATE OF SURVEY:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION		
CONDITION	(Check One)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
	(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE		
<p>The house is a two story, brick building with a five bay main (south) facade. On either end are flush gable chimneys. The windows have 6/6 double hung sash below flat relieving arches. On the north facade a one story, brick enclosed porch hides the first floor. There are three dormer windows on the south slope of the roof.</p>		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☐ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☐ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☐ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Social/Human-

itorion

☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				C R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"		°	'	"	
NE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SW	°	'	"		°	'	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

MNCPPC

DATE

25 Oct 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature



P.G. #72A-10

CHERRY HILL

House Heights

Huntsville

Highland Park

Carmody Hills

SEAT PLEASANT

Maryland Park

Marshall Heights

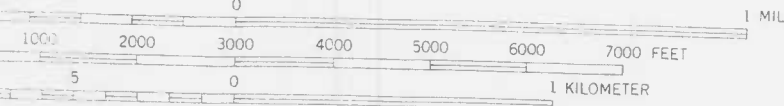
Capitol Heights

Greater Capitol Heights

Huntsville

(ANACOSTIA)
5661 IV SW

SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
ELEVATIONS AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
DOTTED LINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 29 FEET

COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
FOR INFORMATION ON TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Boundary lines shown in purple compiled from latest information available from the controlling authority

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
ROAD
Heavy duty
Medium-duty
Interstate Route

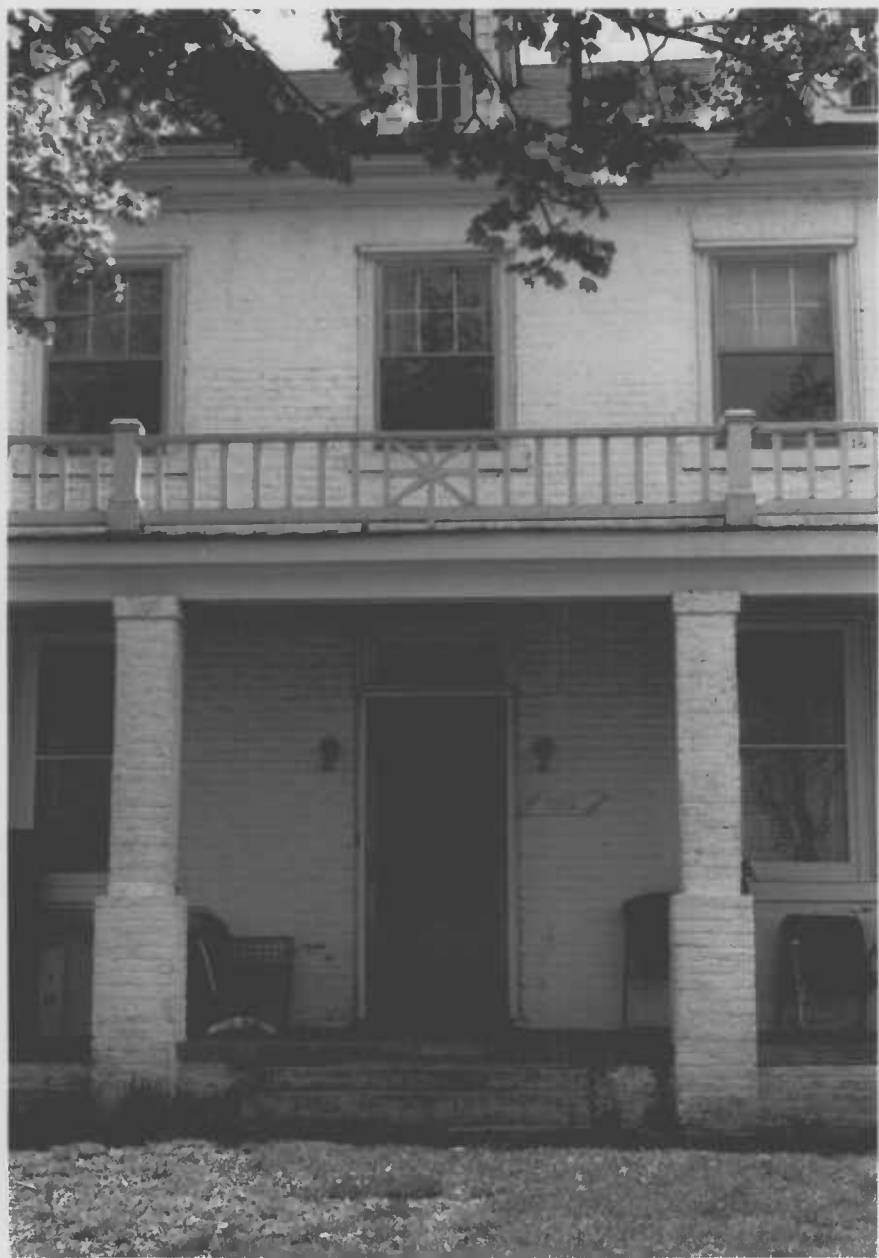
WASHINGTON
N385

PHO
AMS 56



P. G. #72~~1~~-10

Cherry Hill
Prince George's County, Md.
Susan G. Pearl
April 1983
West Elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P. G. #72~~A~~-10

Cherry Hill
Prince George's County, Md.
Susan G. Pearl
April 1983
West Elevation (Detail)
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



NAME CHERRY HILL

LOCATION EASTERN AVE. AT MANN ST. (D.C. LINE) FAIRMONT HEIGHTS
Md.

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 10/25/74 M DWYER

PG: 72-10